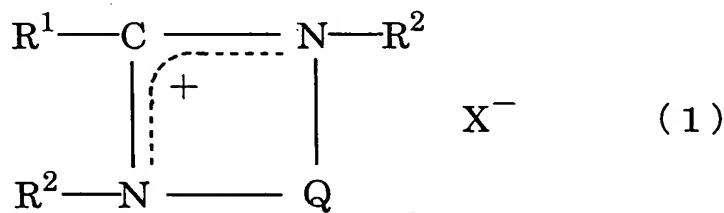


CLAIMS

1. An electrolyte for an electrochemical capacitor comprising a cyclic amidinium salt (B) represented by the
5 general formula (1),

wherein the total amount of a cyclic amidinium salt derivative (A) represented by the general formula (2) is not larger than 10 mole% relative to the sum of (A) and (B):

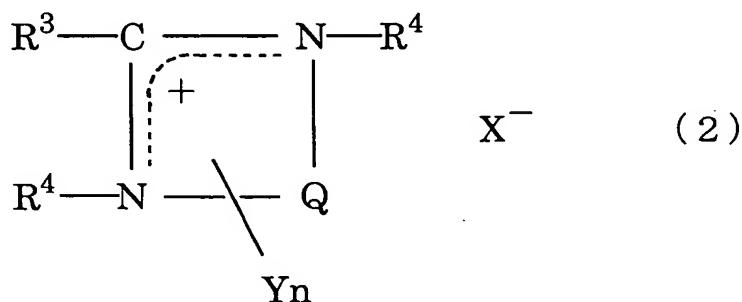
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[In the formula, R^1 represents a hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, which may optionally have a hydroxyl group(s), R^2 represents a hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 10 carbon atoms, which 20 may optionally have a hydroxyl group, amino group, nitro group, cyano group, formyl group and/or ether bond-containing group(s), and the two R^2 groups may be the same or different, Q represents an alkylene, arylene or alkenylene group containing 2 to 10 carbon atoms, which may 25 optionally have a hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 5 carbon atoms, an amino, nitro, cyano or formyl group(s), and X^- represents a counter anion; the part or whole of the R^1 and R^2 moieties may be bound together to form a ring.];

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[In the formula, R^3 represents a hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, which may be substituted with a hydroxyl group(s), R^4 represents a hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 10 carbon atoms, which

5 may have a hydroxyl, amino, nitro, cyano, formyl and/or ether bond-containing group(s), and the two R^4 groups may be the same or different; Q represents an alkylene, arylene or alkenylene group containing 2 to 10 carbon atoms, which may optionally have a hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 5

10 carbon atoms, an amino, nitro, cyano or formyl group(s), and there are cases where there is X^- or there is no X^- and, when there is X^- , it represents a counter anion, and each Y represents a carboxyl group or an $-OCO_2H$ and, when there is no X^- , each Y represents a carboxyl group, a carboxyl anion group, an $-OCO_2H$ or $-OCO_2^-$ group and one Y represents a carboxyl anion or an $-OCO_2^-$ group; n represents an integer of 1 to 20; the part or whole of the R^3 and R^4 moieties may be bound together to form a ring].

20 2. The electrolyte for an electrochemical capacitor according to Claim 1,
which is producible by dissolving said cyclic amidinium salt (B) in a solvent.

25 3. The electrolyte for an electrochemical capacitor according to Claim 1 or 2,
wherein Q is a $-CH=CH-$ group.

30 4. The electrolyte for an electrochemical capacitor according to any one of Claims 1 to 3,
wherein the anion X^- in (A) or (B) is an ion selected from the group consisting of PF_6^- , BF_4^- , AsF_6^- , SbF_6^- , $N(RfSO_2)_2^-$, $C(RfSO_2)_3^-$ and $RfSO_3^-$ (Rf representing a fluoroalkyl group containing 1 to 12 carbon atoms).

5. The electrolyte for an electrochemical capacitor according to any one of Claims 1 to 4,

wherein the solvent comprises, as the main component, at least one species selected from the group consisting of 5 propylene carbonate, ethylene carbonate, butylene carbonate, sulfolane, 3-methylsulfolane, acetonitrile, dimethyl carbonate, ethyl methyl carbonate and diethyl carbonate.

6. An electrochemical capacitor having a polarizable 10 electrode impregnated with an electrolyte

which contains the electrolyte for an electrochemical capacitor according to any one of Claims 1 to 5 as the electrolyte, and

15 in which at least one of the positive and negative electrodes is a polarizable electrode comprising a carbonaceous material as the main component.

7. The electrochemical capacitor according to Claim 6, wherein the carbonaceous material is activated carbon.

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8. An electric double layer capacitor having a polarizable electrode impregnated with an electrolyte

which is producible by using the electrolyte for an electrochemical capacitor according to any one of Claims 1 25 to 5 as the electrolyte.

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